

## **REMARKS**

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

### **Claim Status**

Claims 1-18 in this application are pending and rejected.

### **Provisional Double Patenting Rejection**

Claims 1-18 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims of US Patent Nos. 6,724,860, 6,757,359, and 6,744,857.

Applicants herewith submit a Terminal Disclaimer under 37 CFR §1.321 disclaiming the term of any patent issuing from this application in view of any patent granted from US Patent Nos. 6,724,860, 6,757,359, and 6,744,857. Applicants' filing of the Terminal Disclaimer is not intended to be construed as an admission as to the merits of this rejection but is merely done to facilitate prosecution and obviate the rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that this provisional rejection is hereby overcome and respectfully request that it be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe that claims 1-18 as pending are patentable over the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, and respectfully request that the respective rejections be withdrawn and the application allowed.

## **CONCLUSION**

Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is hereby placed in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned should there be any further issues which need attention.

In the event that a telephone conference would facilitate prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,



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